

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An arrangement and method for preventing unauthorized access of personnel into the hoistway of an elevator system. The arrangement includes a security device for mounting in the vicinity of an auxiliary release mechanism of a landing door to prevent actuation of the auxiliary release mechanism during normal operating conditions. The security device includes an energization circuit which, in use, is responsive to changes in operating conditions of the elevator system and may also include an obstruction member movable in response to the energization circuit between a first position preventing key access through a keyhole during normal operating conditions and a second position permitting access through the keyhole during abnormal operating conditions. Accordingly, a key can only be inserted through the keyhole to actuate an unlocking bit of the auxiliary release mechanism to release the landing doors during abnormal operating conditions.